



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 152

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2006

No. 35

## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2006, at 2 p.m.

## Senate

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2006

The Senate met at 1 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Lord of life, King of our hearts and Ruler of all, teach us how to lay up treasures in heaven. Empower us to see the importance of setting our affections on the things above. Strengthen our lawmakers for today's challenges. Give them hearts eager to do Your will. Help them to know Your ways and teach them Your paths.

Today, comfort us as we mourn the deaths of David Lee Hamlett, a Senate police officer, and Erma James Byrd, wife of Senator ROBERT BYRD. Help us to bring You our wounded hearts and to tell You our anguish. Remind us that Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. Infuse us with a faith that will not shrink though tossed by the winds of trial.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today, we will resume consideration of the lobbying reform measure. As I mentioned before the break, it is my expectation the Senate will consider the lobbying reform bill and the border control legislation during the next 2 weeks. This should allow sufficient time to work through these bills, and I hope we can focus our efforts and work together across the aisle on both of these bills. These bills are nonpartisan, and we should be able to address them in a bipartisan way working together.

On the lobbying reform bill today, first, I hope the Senator from New York will withdraw his unrelated amendment. That would then allow the two managers to find a way to begin to schedule some of the lobbying-related amendments for debate and votes. In addition, we have Senator WYDEN's amendment currently pending, and we are working to set a time certain for a vote on that amendment.

On the border control bill, we have a cloture vote scheduled for tomorrow on the motion to proceed to that bill. I will be talking to the Democratic leader later today on the precise timing of that vote, as we await the work of the Judiciary Committee under Chairman SPECTER that is meeting today.

With respect to today, I wish to remind my colleagues that we are work-

ing to set up a vote this afternoon, either on an amendment or a nomination. We are expecting that vote to begin at approximately 5:15. We will likely have to drag that vote a little bit for a few minutes because we are starting that vote 15 minutes earlier than most of our colleagues had anticipated.

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, while the managers of the lobbying reform bill sort through some of the amendments and because we have some Members who want to speak on other subjects today, I now ask unanimous consent that there be a period of morning business until 3 p.m., with Senators to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

### ERMA ORA JAMES BYRD

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I would like to open today with respects paid to Erma Byrd, the wife of our dear friend and colleague, Senator ROBERT BYRD. As the Chaplain mentioned in his prayer, Mrs. Byrd passed away recently—in fact, on Saturday night.

Erma Ora James Byrd was the devoted wife of Senator BYRD for nearly 69 years. Born in Virginia in 1917, Erma and her family moved to West Virginia when she was a child. It was there that she met her future husband at the Mark Twain Grade School in Raleigh County.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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